



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: February 22, 2015
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WEATHER

The weather pattern this week was dominated by repetition, as nearly every location in the State received the same weather day-to-day from Monday through Saturday. The highs showed relatively little variability, with 60s and 70s common everywhere except the coolest parts of the mountains and the deserts. Lows showed a little more variability, with 50s along the coast and the southern deserts to 40s in the valley and 30s in the mountains; although parts of the mountains dropped into the single digits a couple of nights. All locations stayed dry through Saturday. On Sunday a plume of Pacific moisture surged into the State, dumping a third to half an inch on parts of the State south of Merced. The highest rainfall fell in the Los Angeles basin into parts of Riverside and San Bernardino counties, which saw amounts up to one inch. Modest snowfall was seen in the central Sierras, which helped to maintain snow packs on the mountains. However, warm temperatures and dry weather continued to erode dwindling snow packs in the rest of the Sierras.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, oats, and other winter forage crops continued to grow well. Irrigation continued due to the lack of rain. **Alfalfa** fields were cultivated and planted. Field preparations were underway for the spring planting of corn. Some weevil controls were applied in alfalfa. Winter wheat was in boot stage. Wheat was growing well due to sunny weather and benefitted from the nitrogen applications. Pasture and rangeland, oats, and other inter forage crops continued to grow well but slowly. The wheat crop was rated as 80 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 55 percent poor to fair.

FRUIT CROPS

Pruning and shredding continued in tree fruit orchards. Early stone fruit varieties were showing full bloom in some areas of the State. Fungicides were applied to protect the blooms and prevent brown rot and shot hole fungus. Grapevines were pruned and tied. Mechanical and chemical weed control continued in fruit tree orchards and vineyards. **Kiwifruit, Navel oranges, Cara Caras, Moro Blood oranges, Mandarins, Minneola Tangelos, lemons**, and **grapefruits** were packed and shipped to domestic and foreign markets. Orange trees were topped in advance of the bloom. Seedless Mandarins and **Murcotts** were covered with netting to prohibit cross pollination. **Olive** trees were pruned.

NUT CROPS

Pecans, walnuts, and **pistachios** were packed and exported to foreign and domestic markets. An inconsistent almond bloom was reported, with pollinating occurring later for the Nonpareil variety. Also, there were reports of premature leafing. Scattered sightings of spider mites have been reported. Petal fall has begun.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Colusa County, the warm temperatures were advancing local organic vegetables to maturity. Harvest was underway for **asparagus**. In Sutter County, weed control and field preparation for summer vegetables continued. In San Joaquin County, asparagus was harvested and **sweet corn** was planted. In Madera County, there was ground preparation for processing **tomatoes**. In Monterey County, there was some **brassica** harvesting. In San Mateo County, growers started fumigating fields to prepare for spring planting. In Fresno County, growers prepared processing tomato beds and planted fresh **onions**. There were reports of onions treated for bulb mites. Seed crops (Mazuma **mustard**, black **kale** and **watercress**) were treated for aphids. Fields were fumigated for weed and nematode control in preparation for planting spring **carrots**. In Tulare County, fields continued to be prepared for spring and summer planting. Early varieties of summer vegetables (tomatoes, **cucumbers**, **squash** and **eggplant**) were germinated in greenhouses. Those planted in the fields were under hot caps. **Spinach** and **broccoli** fields were progressing well. In Kern County, fields were treated for an outbreak of downy mildew in onions. Leaf burn was also found in some onion fields.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland feed conditions were beginning to falter with the lack of recent rains. More rain was needed to help with the germination and long term development of foothill grasses and forbs. Optimal weather conditions increased dairy production. Bee hives were delivered for orchard pollination.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 2/23/2015

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 2/23/2015	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 2/23/2015	January 1 - 2/23/2015	July 1 - 2/23/2015	Week Ending 2/23/2015	July 1 - 2/23/2015	July 1 - 2/23/2015	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1--	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	51	+3	60	40	6	0	60	0.01	25.30	26.17	38.10
Ukiah	57	+8	78	36	0	0	45	0.00	23.42	27.88	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	55	+3	74	37	3	0	38	0.00	22.26	22.38	31.01
Napa State Hosp	58	+6	75	42	8	0	42	0.00	18.65	18.96	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco A	58	+6	68	49	18	0	30	0.00	13.93	14.38	20.11
San Jose AP	59	+5	72	45	11	0	30	0.00	10.26	10.23	15.08
Salinas AP	59	+7	75	47	71	0	26	0.00	8.50	8.80	12.91
Monterey AP	56	+3	69	44	40	0	35	0.00	12.89	13.86	20.35
King City Ag	58	+5	75	42	17	0	21	0.00	5.81	8.16	12.30
Paso Robles AP	56	+6	75	39	6	0	21	0.11	7.43	8.88	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	59	+10	78	39	20	0	51	0.00	23.35	22.48	33.52
Red Bluff	58	+7	76	42	11	0	51	0.00	21.97	16.65	24.07
Willow s 6W	57	+8	75	41	5	0	36	0.00	18.96	13.31	19.03
Oroville AP	56	+5	73	44	4	0	37	0.00	16.21	19.83	28.75
Marysville	56	+4	75	44	4	0	34	0.00	13.34	15.28	22.07
Sacramento AP	56	+5	73	43	4	0	30	0.00	11.99	12.66	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	55	+4	73	42	5	0	30	0.01	8.51	9.53	13.84
Modesto AP	56	+3	72	44	13	0	27	0.37	7.18	8.75	13.12
Merced Macready	53	+2	74	40	9	0	25	0.02	5.82	8.36	12.50
Madera AP	55	+4	75	42	15	0	19	0.08	4.55	7.63	11.94
Fresno AP	56	+4	76	43	19	0	13	0.17	3.98	7.17	11.23
Lemoore NAS	55	+4	77	38	8	0	16	0.13	3.61	4.96	7.89
Visalia AP	57	+5	75	43	17	0	11	0.29	4.69	7.15	11.03
Bakersfield AP	59	+5	80	44	41	0	12	0.00	3.48	3.97	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas AP	40	+6	67	18	0	0	57	0.00	6.23	7.06	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	47	+9	68	27	0	0	56	0.00	32.80	26.52	39.16
Blue Canyon	52	+14	63	33	4	0	45	0.00	26.35	44.65	66.36
Yosemite Valley	53	+11	71	37	0	0	26	0.00	9.09	25.56	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria AP	60	+7	69	51	71	0	17	0.00	3.21	9.07	14.01
Santa Barbara A	58	+3	67	46	36	0	16	0.00	6.10	11.61	16.93
Oxnard NWS	59	+3	67	47	146	0	18	0.19	5.56	10.78	15.62
Riverside AP	62	+5	79	47	142	19	21	0.08	3.36	6.75	10.22
Los Angeles AP	61	+3	67	54	127	55	19	0.12	4.78	9.15	13.15
San Diego AP	63	+5	67	57	165	74	18	0.00	4.33	7.00	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop AP	52	+10	80	27	0	0	8	0.04	0.78	3.51	5.02
Daggett AP	62	+10	84	44	50	0	12	0.01	1.41	3.13	4.17
Lancaster ATC	55	+8	82	33	0	0	14	0.00	3.91	5.14	7.40
Thermal	64	+5	85	44	126	53	14	0.00	0.87	2.84	3.53
Blythe AP	66	+7	83	48	164	43	17	0.00	1.63	3.27	4.02
Imperial CA	66	+7	86	48	162	66	15	0.00	2.14	2.50	2.96

1/ Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow /ice) is in inches.

Air Temperatures are in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

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